

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) today discussed legislation he introduced last week to require the Department of Homeland Security to remove criminal aliens from the U.S. upon release from incarceration. Rooney said he will urge Congress to take up the bill when the House returns in September.

“If you’re here illegally and you commit a crime, you should serve your sentence and then go back to your home country,” Rooney said. “You can’t stay here and continue to commit crimes against our citizens.

“A system where you can come here illegally, get convicted of a crime, and then get released back into our communities is unacceptable. We’ve seen too many tragic incidents where Americans have lost their lives in crimes committed by illegal immigrants who have already been through the justice system.”

Rooney’s “Criminal Alien Removal Act,” [H.R. 6062](#), requires the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that criminal aliens are not released into the community and are removed from the U.S. upon release. The bill also allows officials to hold criminal aliens after their sentence ends to make sure they can be transferred into federal custody and removed from the country.

“My bill sends a message that we’re ready to get serious about protecting Americans and securing our border,” Rooney said.

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